

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 576

By Barker

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Dyer County High School Choctaw baseball team on winning the 2009 TSSAA Class AA State Baseball Championship.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful high school athletic teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, the Dyer County High School Choctaw baseball team achieved an extraordinary level of success in 2009, ending the season with a 40-5 overall record and winning the TSSAA Class AA State Baseball Championship; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, May 22, 2009, the Choctaws faced the Knoxville Catholic High School Fighting Irish at Middle Tennessee State University, where an enthusiastic crowd had gathered for the championship game; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Head Coach Preston Ozment, Dyer County vanquished Knoxville Catholic 8-4 in a game characterized by solid Choctaw defense and a nearly ceaseless barrage of Choctaw hits; and

WHEREAS, Dyer County freshman pitcher Colton Harris gave up eight hits, struck out four, and allowed four runs in his seven innings on the mound; behind him, the Choctaw defense got eleven ground outs; and

WHEREAS, as for the Choctaws' offense, senior Jordan Patterson, junior Keaton Gregory, senior Tyler Roberson, sophomore Nick Newell, senior Shea Thomas, junior Dylan Haycraft, and junior Dillon Bevis distinguished themselves on the diamond that afternoon; the Fighting Irish had little chance with hitters like these at bat; and

WHEREAS, in addition to those estimable Choctaws already enumerated, the 2009 Dyer County High School baseball roster includes seniors Chad Gammons and Garrett Purvis; juniors Rex White, Will Harris, and Josh Skaggs; sophomores Addison Sansone, Logan Pugh, Terry Wright, Andrew Jordan, Logan Wildenburg, Taylor Erwin, and Rob Harris; and freshmen Quentin Haycraft, Cody Dennison, J.T. Ketchum, Andrew Massie, Drew Surratt, Lane Duncan, Matt Smith, T.J. Daniels, Ethan Mansfield, B.J. Pate, Ryan Humphries, Rusty Dawson, and Hunter Wells; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Ozment was ably assisted in his efforts to lead and train the Dyer County Choctaws by Assistant Coaches Thomas Harrison, Barry Kendall, and Eddie Sims; and

WHEREAS, the players of the 2009 Dyer County High School baseball team epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved the highest level of success in competition while showing the greatest degree of character both on and off the field; they are an inspiration not only to other Choctaw athletes, but to their fellow students at Dyer County High as well; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young men made possible a championship season, and this surely bodes well for their success in the future; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee takes great pride in the tremendous accomplishments of those student athletes who have excelled both in their sport and in the classroom; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate the Dyer County High School Choctaw baseball team on winning the 2009 TSSAA Class AA State Baseball Championship and wish them all the best in the years and seasons to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.